

# American Bee Journal



WEEKLY—\$1.00 A YEAR

Published by GEORGE W. YORK & CO., 334 Dearborn Street

45th Year

CHICAGO, ILL., JUNE 8, 1905

No. 23

WEEKLY



NO 2.



No. 1.—Baby Apiary of Wm. W. Murphy, of Linn Co., Mo.  
No. 2.—Patch of Buckwheat in Bloom.

## REAR QUEENS

It is not as difficult as many imagine. An instruction book and one of our Outfits, and you can supply your apiary and your neighbors at a profit. A good Queen is the key to a good honey crop. See to it that ALL your colonies are queen-right.

### ROOT QUEEN-REARING OUTFIT

In this outfit are embraced the best points of the best systems in use. It will give satisfaction to the amateur as well as the expert. The cell-cups are made of wood, wax-coated. Notmelted wax is used in their manipulation, as they are attached to the cell-stick by means of a small nail-point.

The nursery cage combines the features of nursery and introducing cages. By their use a queen can be released on the candy plan or caged in the hive as desired.

In connection with the outfit goes a booklet on queen-rearing—one which ought to put the veriest amateur on the high road to success. Outfit comprises 3 cell-bars with 50 waxed wooden cells, one frame cages, (20); one cell-forming stick; one set grafting-tools, and a book on queen-rearing, \$4.50.

Wood cell-cup, with point for attaching to bar, 50c per 100; \$4.00 per 1000.

Same, waxed, ready for use, 75c per 100; \$6.00 per 1000;

Titoff wire nursery-cages, 15c each; \$1.35 for 10; \$12.50 per 100.

Frame for holding 20 cages, including cages, \$3.00.

Cell-stick, each 10c; \$1.00 per dozen.

Transferring-needle, double-ended and nickel-plated, 15c.

Jelly-spoon, nickel-plated, 15c.

We can supply, also, fine-pointed lace-scissors with extra large bows, for clumsy fingers, at 35c each.



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A booklet of 34 pages, giving full description of methods used by the A. I. Root Company. You can not afford to do without this book if you rear queens. Price, 15c postpaid.



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NOTE.—These goods and books are for sale by all dealers in bee-keepers' supplies, and furnished at wholesale and retail by The A. I. Root Company.

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*Outfit No. 1—Experimental, postpaid, \$1.50*

1 Cell-bar 1 Holding-frame  
16 Waxed flange-cups 12 Transfer-cages



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2 Cell-bars 1 Needle 18 Transfer-cages  
35 Waxed flange-cups 1 Holding-frame 1 Cell-stick



*Outfit No. 3—Professional, by freight or express, \$7.50*

2 Blank bars 2 Cell-bars  
3 Holding frames 1 Incubating-cage  
1 Cage-pocket 1 Grace cell-compressor  
1 Grafting-plug 100 Flange-cups  
10 Comp. mating-boxes 2 Swarth. nursery-cages  
1 Bar-holder 24 Transfer-cages  
1 Swarm-box with lid 1 Needle 1 Stick



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"INCREASE" tells how to form new colonies without breaking up working colonies, postpaid, 25 cents.

"BABY NUCLEI;" how to mate queens with a mere handful of bees, 50 cents.

"CELL-GETTING," 50 cents.



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		Post extra
Bar-holder .....	.10	4 cents
Blank bar .....	.05	4 "
Bottle feeder .....	.10	5 "
Bulb filler and feeder .....	.75	8 "
Breeding-queen hive .....	1.00	
16-hole cell-bar .....	.10	2 "
Cage-pocket .....	.25	9 "
Flange-cups, unwaxed, 1c each; per 100 .....	.75	9 "
Flange-cups, waxed, 2c each; per 100 .....	1.75	14 "
Grace cell-compressor, each .....	1.75	14 "
Grafting-needle, each .....	.15	1 "
Grafting-plug, each .....	.10	1 "
Grafting-stick, each .....	.10	1 "
Holding-frame, each .....	.10	5 "
Incubating-cage, each .....	.35	7 "
Mating-boxes, complete, each 20c; 10 .....	1.50	12 "
Nursery-cages, complete, waxed cell-cup .....	.35	5 "
Nursery-cages, no cups .....	.25	4 "
Swarm-box, with lid .....	1.00	
Swarm-box lid only .....	.25	
Trap-box .....	.50	
T stands, each .....	.10	6 "
Transfer-cages .....	.10	2 "

## THE A. I. ROOT COMPANY

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# AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

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GEORGE W. YORK, Editor

CHICAGO, ILL., JUNE 8, 1905

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## IMPORTANT NOTICES

THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE of this Journal is \$1.00 a year, in the United States, Canada, and Mexico; all other countries in the Postal Union, 50 cents a year extra for postage. Sample copy free.

THE WRAPPER-LABEL DATE indicates the end of the month to which your subscription is paid. For instance, "dec 15" on your label shows that it is paid to the end of December, 1904.

SUBSCRIPTION RECEIPTS.—We do not send a receipt for money sent us to pay subscription, but change the date on your wrapper-label, which shows that the money has been received and credited.

ADVERTISING RATES will be given upon application.

## National Bee-Keepers' Association

Objects of the Association

- 1st.—To promote the interests of its members.
- 2d.—To protect and defend its members in their lawful rights.
- 3d.—To enforce laws against the adulteration of honey.

Annual Membership Dues, \$1.00

General Manager and Treasurer—  
N. E. FRANCE, Platteville, Wis.

If more convenient, Dues may be sent to the publishers of the American Bee Journal.

## The Honey-Producers' League

(INCORPORATED)

### OBJECTS:

1. To create a larger demand for honey through advertising.
2. To publish facts about honey, and counteract misrepresentations of the same.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

1. Any bee-keeper may become a member by paying to the Manager an annual fee of \$1.00 for each 20 (or fraction of 20) colonies of bees (spring count) he owns or operates.
2. Any honey-dealer, bee-supply dealer, bee-supply manufacturer, bee-paper publisher, or any other firm or individual, may become a member on the annual payment of a fee of \$10, increased by one-fifth of one (1) percent of his or its capital used in the allied interests of bee-keeping.

GEORGE W. YORK, Manager,  
334 Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.

### Queen-Bee Free as a Premium

To a subscriber whose own subscription to the American Bee Journal is paid at least to the end of 1905, we will give an untested Italian queen for sending us ONE NEW subscription with \$1.00 for the Bee Journal a year. Now is a good time to get new subscribers. If you wish extra copies of the Bee Journal for use as samples, let us know how many you want and we will mail them to you. Address all orders to the office of the American Bee Journal.

## Editorial Notes and Comments

### Short Stores—Warning to Beginners

As a matter of fact the warning is needed by many who are not beginners. A good many colonies will be lost after this paragraph appears in print, and by those who have not dreamed of danger. It seems to take a good many years of experience to gain an adequate idea of the amount of honey used up in rearing brood in the spring. A colony has a good supply of honey when overhauled in April or the first part of May, and the owner thinks it entirely unnecessary to give any further attention to the matter of stores. If he would look into the hives just before the harvest begins, he would be surprised at the bareness of the larders.

A critical time often comes just before time to put on supers, when the immense amount of brood makes heavy demands on the stores, and little or nothing is coming in from the fields. If stores give out entirely, it means not only the cessation of all egg-laying, but as well the destruction of all unsealed brood. In other words, it means the loss of eight or more days of the queen's work, and that at a time when such work counts at its highest value. Especially remember that starvation may come *after* the fields are white with clover, for there may be no nectar in the blossoms.

### The Glucose-Honey Story Again

Rene Bache, in the Saturday Evening Post for May 20, contributes an article on "The Whimsical Consumer: Color, Not Quality, is What He Seeks in Food." After saying, "Appearance counts for vastly more than taste in rendering any food product marketable," reference is made to bright red apples, large strawberries, brown-colored eggs, yellow-skinned chickens, etc., all of which, it is alleged, are preferred regardless of *taste* or *quality* by the consumer.

"As far as practicable, things should be big, uniform in size, shapely, and done up in convenient and showy packages," it is said. This may be the case in exceptional instances, but we can not believe that the housekeepers, purveyors, etc., of this country—those who perhaps buy nine tenths of all the eatables used—prefer appearance to quality and taste.

But the paragraph in Rene Bache's article that is of greatest interest to bee-keepers is the following:

"Glucose, made of appropriate consistency, suitably colored, and containing pieces of genuine honey-comb, is bought by many people in preference to real comb honey. Honey is supposed to be light yellow, and, if darker, it finds a less ready sale. On the other hand, California comb honey is looked upon with suspicion in the East on account of its almost colorless appearance, the whiteness of the wax, and the perfect filling of all the cells. Purchasers frequently reject it on the supposition that it is machine-made, comb and all—the idea that comb honey is ingeniously counterfeited, and to some extent manufactured being, notwithstanding its absurdity, one of the most widespread of popular delusions."

We do not think that many people prefer a mixture of cheap glucose and pieces of honey-comb to "real comb honey." They may be inveigled into buying it through its sale being pushed by extensive advertising and otherwise, but never from a real preference if they can get first-class comb honey—the product of the bees. Talk about a combination of glucose and wax outranking the thick, delicious, well-ripened honey! It is ignorance of the genuine bee-product that prefers the glucose compound. Certainly no one who is familiar with real or best-quality honey—either in the comb or out of it—would prefer glucose, if in his right mind, or unless he has an unnatural, vitiated taste.

So "the idea that comb honey is ingeniously counterfeited," "machine-made," is still a "popular delusion." And the more beautiful the genuine article is in appearance, the more it is thought a counterfeit. Well, that's pretty rough on apicultural progress from bee-tree honey to that of tempting sections of virgin whiteness.

The next thing for bee-keepers to do is to displace the wrong idea that the public has of honey with the correct and true idea. Until that is done the finest product of the hive will be in disrepute among a large portion of our population. What a shame!

The Honey-Producers' League was organized to undertake the education of the public concerning honey. It's a big job, we know and will need the earnest co-operation of all



bee-keepers and others who are interested in the production and sale of honey. But it can be done by a persistent, united effort.

### A Glowing Account of a Honey-Flow

Arthur Laing gives in the Canadian Bee Journal the following account of a honey-flow from logwood in the island of Jamaica that is enough to send a thrill to the heart of any genuine bee-keeper:

I noticed unmistakable evidences of an almost universal bloom, and about 10 days later it came out in all its glory. It was truly a magnificent sight, and although the house was about 500 feet from the apiary, the roar of the bees passing to and fro was a sound to make glad the heart of any bee-keeper. I went down to the apiary one morning about 6 o'clock, and if I live to be 100 years old I never expect to see a more stirring scene in any apiary than I looked upon in that yard of 250 colonies. The bees seemed to be fairly wild with joy, and I must say it gave me a similar sensation to watch them. They kept up this pace for 4 days, which brought us up to a Saturday evening. I told my partner I should have to put on a lot of extra supers on the following Monday morning, but, alas! it rained that Saturday night, and next morning the logwood blossoms were as brown as though they had been burnt, and the flow was over. Six thousand pounds for the 4 days was the record.

But the thrill is likely to become a chill when later on he says:

Prices we received ran from a small fraction below 2 cents per pound for dark to a small fraction below 3 cents per pound for the best, which was one of the finest samples on the island.

### Hushing Up Presence of Foul Brood

Mr. A. E. Hoshal is reported in the Canadian Bee Journal as saying:

I have wondered why it is we desire to keep this thing covered up so thoroughly as we do. My bees had the disease a while ago, and I wouldn't like to be considered a criminal because my bees had it. It is no disgrace.

Mr. Hoshal is right. There is no more sense in hushing up a case of foul brood than there is in hushing up a case of small-pox. In both cases the welfare of others demands publicity.

### Send Questions in Time

Now and again some one sends a batch of questions to be answered in the American Bee Journal, with the curt request, "Answer in this week's Journal," when a very little knowledge of the publishing business would make the sender understand that compliance with such a request was an utter impossibility. Quite possibly the questions are such as have not arisen from any sudden emergency, but could have been asked a month sooner just as well as not.

It would be a real pleasure if every question could be answered in such manner that within 24 hours the answer should be received by the one who sent the question, and it is a painful feeling to know that sometimes when the best efforts have been made the answers are so late in being received as to cause disappointment. Although our postal system is a marvel of accuracy and dispatch, still it does sometimes happen that a letter is delayed, and in rare instances lost. There is also the possibility of loss in some cases before the letter reaches the post-office; and if not lost, delay. So there must be counted time, and

sometimes overtime, for a letter to reach Chicago. Then it is a matter of time to get the letter to Dr. Miller, whose province is to answer questions. Just so far as it is possible to do so, he always answers such questions very promptly; but it must be remembered that he is a practical bee-keeper, and work in the apiary may be crowding so that he can not at once answer. After he has sent the answer to Chicago it takes time to get it into type and into press. Possibly the columns of the Journal are so crowded that a postponement of a week is inevitable.

If all these things are taken into considera-

tion, it will be seen that the sender of a question can not reasonably expect to find his question answered in the next number of the paper.

If an answer is desired as speedily as possible, it is always well to send the question direct to Dr. Miller. The delay of a day or two from sending the question first to Chicago will sometimes make no difference as to the time it appears in print, and at other times it may make a delay of a week or two.

But be assured that it is the desire at this end of the line to make just as little delay as possible.

## Miscellaneous News Items

### Mr. Benton After Foreign Bees.—

We have received the following from Miss Jessie E. Marks, who is an assistant in the section devoted to apiculture, of the Bureau of Entomology, in the Department of Agriculture at Washington:

"The Apicultural Investigator of the United States Department of Agriculture, Mr. Frank Benton, is about to start on a tour of exploration in the interest of apiculture. The purpose of the trip will be to secure new and valuable types of honey-bees for testing (under control) in this country, more especially the giant bees of the East, *Megapis dorsata* (*Apis dorsata*), and also any honey-producing plants which might prove of value in this country, particularly such as would at the same time serve as forage crops.

"He intends to go by way of England and across the continent to Constantinople, thence to the Caucasus, where he hopes to obtain a good supply of the gentle Caucasian queens; across the Caspian Sea to Bokhara, and from there southward over the long stretch of some 800 miles across Afghanistan (by caravan since there are no railroads in that region) to the Punjab in India, thence eastward through the northern part of Hindustan to Calcutta, whence the route will be by steamer via Singapore to Manila."

We trust Mr. Benton will keep the bee-papers of America informed concerning his foreign investigations, so that they in turn can pass the information on to their readers, who will be greatly interested in the proposed trip and its results.

### Invention of the Movable-Frame

**Hive.**—It is a pleasure to have the following explanation from one who is so thoroughly familiar with bee-keeping in Germany, and who stands as authority on both sides the ocean:

To the notice on page 340, I have to make a few remarks. This matter has been discussed very often, nevertheless some mistakes remain to be corrected. The different opinions can easily be explained if we distinguish movable frames and movable combs.

Nobody in Germany claims that Dzierzon invented a movable-frame hive, even the movable comb attached to a bar was known long before him, among others Della Rocca using this bar. But it is claimed in Germany that Dzierzon was the first who made such bar-hives fitted for practical bee-keeping, because his hive opened on the side, consequently the combs could be cut off from the ends more easily than in the top-opening hives used before him. Certainly his hive caused remarkable progress in practical bee-keeping in Germany.

Baron Berlepsch is considered as the inventor of the movable frame in Germany. He invented his frame with the bee-space all around it, and very similar to the Hoffman

frame (lately recommended in the United States), at the same time that Langstroth invented his movable-frame hive. Certainly both inventions were made public the same year, and not one of these inventors knew anything of the other. The two hives are so much different that nobody can doubt that each invention was made independently of the other.

The Berlepsch hive is still in general use in Germany, like the Langstroth hive in America. Of course both are considerably modified at present.

Certainly we should perceive and honor the merits of all these men, just in the way they are entitled. L. STACHELHAUSEN.

Bexar Co., Tex.

**The Apiary and Buckwheat Pictures** on the first page are described by Mr. Murphy as follows:

I send two pictures, one is a patch of buckwheat in bloom, and the other my apiary. I was a beginner in 1904, and had only 4 colonies, which I united this spring to 3.

The buckwheat pictured is the silverhull, and I sowed it broadcast June 1, 1904. It bloomed for 25 days, and I let it stand and fall off by the midsummer rains, when it sprouted up again and bloomed, with a good flow of honey till frost, which was late last fall. Now this spring there is no volunteer buckwheat to bother the corn crop.

Last summer colony No. 1 gave me 70 full sections of honey, and 14 partly filled sections, besides about 25 pounds in the brood-chamber. The honey was fine and rich.

The two boys in the picture are my Damon and Loyal, who are not afraid of bees and never get a sting. They love to watch and study them. WM. W. MURPHY.

### Good Reports—National Convention

—General Manager France, writing us May 27, had this to say:

Nearly every State reports good honey prospects.

The Texas Committee on the next National convention at San Antonio, has planned a free banquet for all members who attend, the food to be composed wholly of Mexican dishes; also a 4-hour trolley ride is arranged. There will be a big Fair in San Antonio, Oct. 21 to Nov. 1, so they have asked that our meeting be held between those dates. One day at the Fair will be "Bee-Keepers' Day." Texas certainly will do her part.

N. E. FRANCE.

We don't know about those red-peppery "Mexican dishes." They will likely be pretty "hot stuff," and so A. I. Root and Dr. Miller will have to go "tenderfootedly" down there even when eating "with their fingers." But perhaps they will have their rubber bee-gloves on to protect them when

handling the fiery viands. But what about the linings of their stomachs?

May be those two "boys" would better stay at home, or else take their "best girls" along to look after them, and help defend

them from the internal as well as external dangers that those lively Texans seem to be preparing for their guests!

The rest of us can take along a supply of "Dr. Gandy's Famous Catnip Honey."

## Our Bee-Keeping Sisters

Conducted by EMMA M. WILSON, Marengo, Ill.

### Honey-Paste for Chapped Hands

Honey-paste for chapped hands is made by combining the white of an egg, one teaspoonful of glycerin, one ounce of honey and ground barley.—MME. QUI VIVE, in Chicago Record-Herald.

### Honey-Muffins

Sift together 2 cupfuls of flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a teaspoonful of salt, and 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder. Beat the yolks of 2 eggs very light, add 2 level tablespoonfuls butter (melted), and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a cup of milk and same of extracted honey. Stir the liquid into the flour, beating to a smooth batter. Beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth and fold them in. Bake in muffin-rings placed on a griddle.—Grand Rapids (Mich.) Post.

### Hive-Making at Home Explained

As to whether or not it will pay to manufacture one's own hives depends altogether upon how one is situated and upon what kind of machinery he has at hand. Certainly it will not pay to put them up without some kind of special machinery, for not only is labor worth too much, but the average bee-keeper, unless an accomplished workman besides, would be unable to make corners, frames, and other parts to compare with those cut out in factories equipped for the purpose. But such apparatus as is needed in hive-making is not expensive nor difficult to run, and where a bee-keeper has the necessary time to spare, with upwards of 30 colonies to provide for, it would probably pay him well to invest a little in hive-cutting machinery.

Although we have kept bees for a number of years, averaging 50 colonies to twice that number, we have never had a factory-made hive on the premises. Nor would I exchange the ones we are using for any offered by the best bee-supply house in existence.

Our first start of bees was bought from an old man who made his own hives much as we make ours now. With the 3 colonies bought

we also bought a half-dozen hives in the flat. These were sufficient for the first season, and by the time the next came around we were prepared to put up hives for ourselves and our neighbor bee-keepers. The machinery I will endeavor to describe, also give first cost as far as money invested is concerned.

Some kind of power was of course the first essential. My husband fortunately owned a small-sized horse-power, which he used for sawing stove-wood, and other kinds of light work on the farm. These, at that time, could be secured quite cheaply of thresher-men, who had discarded them for the more popular steam outfit. This one has been re-framed, I believe; but this did not represent any considerable expense.

Having the power and a jack with belt, the only thing necessary to buy was the cutting machinery. Two 7-inch circular saws, one a cut-off and the other a rip-saw, were ordered through a local hardware merchant. These cost in the neighborhood of \$3, the exact amount I have forgotten now. Although 7-inch saws will do quite nicely, 8-inch we have since found would be much better. A little framing material and suitable lumber for table and carriage was all that was bought besides.

Carpenter tools abound here, the master being what may well be called a "handy man." During the winter, when farm work was not pressing, the wood parts were made and put together. An ingenious contrivance, which may be adjusted instantly to any measurements, insures square ends and perfect-fitting joints. Square and saws (other than those belonging to the machine) are never needed. Any kind, size, and make of hive, with any style of frame, can be cut accurately, rapidly, and with comparative ease. Two horses are generally used, though, perhaps, one would be sufficient; at any rate for a short run.

This machine does not cut dovetailed corners, of course, but instead we make what are called "halved corners." These are nailed from both sides, and are really all that could be desired. We have never had one spread or warp away from the joint. For our own hives we use the V-shaped top-bar and self-spacing frames. These the machine cuts as readily as the old-fashioned thick top-bars.

Even hand-holes are cut out when so wanted. Supers of all kinds are as easily made as hives. There is, in fact, no wood article except sections, which we buy from bee-supply houses.

One man with two horses can easily cut out and pack 30 to 30 hives, with frames and supers, in an ordinary working day, while two men—one at the machine and one to move and pack away the parts as cut—could turn out nearly twice that number.

Shipping-cases, poultry-crates, and numerous other such things are cut out and made at home. Our neighbors never think of buying hives from bee-supply houses, as we can furnish them as needed, and at even lower prices. This trade, however, we do not solicit, furnishing them only as an accommodation.

As to the cost of hives made thus, it is evident that this is represented altogether by cost of lumber. For hive-bodies and covers it is usually necessary to buy high-priced lumber, costing perhaps from \$40 to \$50 per thousand. For bottom-boards, made with inclined alighting-board, narrower and cheaper lumber can be used. Supers can also be made of narrower lumber, though of quality equal to the hive-bodies. Frames are largely cut from short pieces and waste strips left from other parts of the hives. Only best quality lumber is used for them, whether waste pieces or not. Common  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story 8-frame Langstroth hives will usually cost from 65 to 75 cents each for material, covers and bottoms included, of course. But this is for best quality of lumber at ordinary retail prices. Nailing and painting costs perhaps 10 cents more per hive. Whether or not it pays, any one can decide for himself, but we shall continue to make what hives are required for use in our own apiary, at any rate.

To any one desiring to put in such machinery as that described above, I would say that many practical hints may be obtained from the "A B C of Bee Culture." With this book at hand any man handy with carpenter tools should be able to build a very satisfactory hive-cutting apparatus. I would say, however, that ours is somewhat more complicated and of greater capacity than the small machines described there.

Perhaps some may like to know where this machine is used and kept when not in use. Like all other farmers in this vicinity, we have tobacco-curing sheds on the farm, and the saw parts are both used and stored in one of these. The power is set up outside for use there, and the rod driving the belt is run through or under one of the small side doors provided for in curing the tobacco. Any good-sized work-shop would accommodate the saws and frame parts without difficulty.

(MRS.) MILLIE HONAKER.

Vernon Co., Wis.

[The "A B C of Bee Culture" can be had for \$1.20, postpaid, or for \$2.00 the book will be sent with the American Bee Journal one year. Address all orders to the American Bee Journal, 334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.—EDITOR.]



## Contributed Special Articles

### "The Cloistering Hive and the Cloistral Method"

BY C. P. DADANT

THE above is the title of a book which is just now attracting the attention of the bee-keepers in France. The authors, J. M. and J. B. Gouttefangeas, here describe their method with a number of cuts. The book is in the French language.

Cloisters, convents, monasteries, hermitages, belong mainly to the Old World. Here they are. It is therefore not astonishing that the ideas emitted originate in the Old World, and

that this title sounds strange to our ears. One of the authors describes his home, where he has practiced the method which his book recommends:

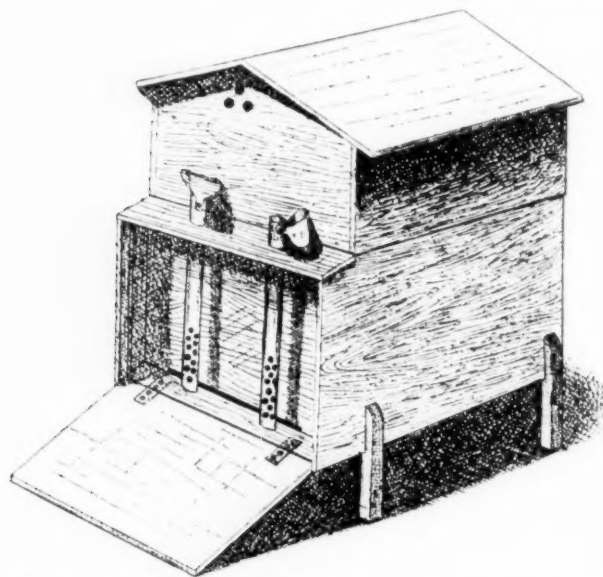
"The Hermitage is an antique monastery perched at 1100 meters of altitude [3600 feet], in the midst of a large forest of beautiful pine trees. The summers are charming here, but the winters are long and rigorous, nothing can be heard but the noise of the wind among the trees and sometimes the shrill piping of the titmouse, but during the night there are powerful screams, well harmonized with the savage nature of this rustic spot, the piercing voice of the owls which seek for one another or hunt for their prey. They have their nest just above my room in the mansard of a spacious attic, and I have given them full permission to establish there their graceful family. They are my friends; they are also the friends of my bees; they destroy more rodents than all the cats of the canton, and the rodents are the enemies of the bees; the enemies of my enemies are my friends."

The cloistering hive is provided with an apparatus for closing it up while at the same time letting a current of air pass freely through without admitting light. This apparatus is composed of pipes in the shape of chimneys or flues pierced with holes and placed in an ante-chamber or portico, where the bees congregate when there is any desire on their part of taking wing.

In Auvergne, the home of the authors, it is customary

among the old-style bee-keepers to close up the hives with cow-dung in the fall, leaving for air only three or four hollow hemp-stalks. The bees then remain cloistered four or five months. But when a warm day comes they are restless, and it is to avoid this restlessness, by excluding light, that the authors have devised the method in question. Evidently the temperature of those regions differs from that of our climate, for in the United States we would expect a large loss of bees confined out-of-doors, even with air and darkness during the warm days of winter. The writer quotes Preuss, a German, who closes his hives within a portico with wire-cloth, when he wishes the bees to be confined, and he criticises this method because of the heavy loss of bees that worry themselves to death in trying to get out when the weather is suitable.

The Gouttefangeas method is described at length in the book. It is evidently good in some instances, and would per-



The Cloistering Hive with Two Air-Tubes. A Dadant-Blatt Hive. The Alighting Board is hinged to close the Portico when wanted.

haps prove quite profitable here in backward springs to prevent spring dwindling when the bees go out, in spite of the cold, after pollen or water. In connection with this, they recommend a watering-trough to be used with the hive at the time when the bees need water for breeding.

They advise the use of this implement mainly during winter to prevent the bees from flying out when there is snow on the ground. It may do very well in a country where the cold of winter is not very severe and does not compel the bees to consume much stores, and where the warm days are not sufficiently warm to make it advisable for the bees to be allowed out. But in our extremely cold climate, with an occasional day when the sun shines warm enough to disturb the bees through the walls of their hive, we have always found it better to allow them to take a flight, even at the risk of losing many bees outside, than to keep the colony confined to the hive in the dark.

They use this cloister in the fall, when the bees go out without purpose, or only to seek for flowers which can not be found. They hold, with some reason, that a colony often becomes depopulated by numerous late flights in cool, fall days. They even close the hives in summer when there is nothing in the field. But their summer is not like ours, for the hottest temperature upon which they reckon is 77 degrees, and they even hesitate as to the advisability of closing the hives when the temperature exceeds 18 degrees Centigrade, which is equivalent to 66 Fahrenheit. There are many winter days in this latitude when the temperature rises above that point.

They use the cloister method when a hive is robbed, or when they want to feed the bees, especially weak colonies. They also recommend it in making artificial swarms by the addition of bees to combs of brood for strengthening colonies, for making nuclei, for transporting colonies and holding them a few days captive that they may the better remember their new location and forget the old one, when released.

On the whole, the book has many good ideas, and is to be considered as the exponent of a system which would be practical at high altitudes or in very cool climates when the heat of

the sun is never so intense that it may make the bees uncomfortable in confinement. Of course, the closing in of these active insects is contrary to their nature, but this is only another instance of the change of conditions brought about by man. If it proves necessary to put the bees into the cellar, or to confine them, we need not be held back by anything but the actual results after trial.

Hancock Co., Ill.



## Mortality Among Bees—Tree-Planting

BY PROF. A. J. COOK

MR. G. F. MERRIAM, of San Diego Co., Calif., sends me a letter from J. M. March, wherein is described an apparently new bee disease. Both Mr. Merriam and Mr. March are very much interested in the matter, and desire my opinion regarding the cause of this rapid taking off of the bees. The mortality was in February, and seemed to be among the old bees. These would die in the hive, would tumble over just outside, and often would fly to the field never to return. The result was the loss of many colonies. Mr. March inclines to the opinion that this is caused by collecting poisonous nectar, and Mr. Merriam wishes my opinion regarding this explanation.

I very much doubt if bees ever gather poisonous nectar from the flowers. True, I remember the old account of Herodotus and the soldier, and I am aware of the reputation of jasmine and some other honey even in modern times. Is it not true that these accounts of poisonous honey, like witchcraft and ghosts, grow beautifully less as we know more? I have studied the matter a good deal, and I greatly question if there is any such thing as poisonous honey gathered from flowers. I have so often given the arguments in the American Bee Journal that I will not repeat them here. Suffice it to say that if poisonous honey were gathered it would be more common, and more a matter of observation. As honey often makes people sick, it is easy to explain the origin of such stories without recourse to any theory of poison.

I should the rather think that poison had been sprayed on trees when in blossom, an inexcusable and indefensible trick in this day of better knowledge, except that at so early a date (February) we can hardly see why such spraying would be done, except with malicious intent, which is not at all supposable in this case. I am sure of cases where spraying fruit-trees with Paris-green while in blossom has not only brought on great mortality among the mature or imago bees, but has also resulted in great mortality among the brood or larvae.

There is still another explanation which I think is the correct one in regard to Mr. March's bees. Last year was one of exceeding drouth in Southern California. As a result the bees gathered little and often no honey at all in many localities. Where Mr. Merriam lives, in San Diego County, is one of the driest in this section. It is easy to believe that last season Mr. March's bees went the season through without gathering any honey at all. We all know what occurs in the hive when bees get no honey for long periods of time. The queen ceases laying and brood-rearing ceases. Thus it is easy to believe that there were no young bees produced in these hives in all the long months of 1904. Yet the old bees would go right on dying, as bees live not over long, even at the best. We thus understand how it would be that these bees should disappear simply by natural law. They simply die of old age.

In case my explanation is the correct one, the remedy is not far to seek. Stimulative feeding at times of honey-dearth would not only give sufficient supplies to the bees, which they are quite likely to need at such times, but will also incite to brood-rearing, and thus this mortality would be avoided. What makes me more inclined to believe that this explanation is the correct one, is the fact that with the rains, the bloom, the nectar, and the honey of this spring, the mortality has ceased, and the bees, which a short time back were rapidly disappearing, are now decidedly on the up grade, and the colonies promise rich returns for the coming season.

### THE ACACIAS.

Among the many rich treasures that California has received from Australia and the contiguous islands, are the beautiful acacias. These are now (April 24) in full bloom on our college campus and in the private yards of our beautiful village. As I have collected sprigs for purposes of identification, I have been interested in the loud hum of countless bees visiting the trees not only for nectar but for pollen. While the bees very likely get some nectar from the flowers themselves, which surely furnish great quantities of pollen, I think they get far more from extra-floral glands. Would any



say that this is not floral honey? We thus see the absurdity of giving any definition of honey other than "sweets stored by bees," not specifying the source.

I wish in this article to commend acacias for general planting. Southern California is already one of the most beautiful parts of the world. There is a general feeling at present prompting to general roadside planting. Claremont, Pomona, and San Dimas, all neighboring towns with a common telephone, have recently engaged in very extensive roadside tree-planting. It is worthy of remark that each of these places has a vigorous farmers' club. Communities with such clubs are not usually asleep to their own best interests. One of the trees that these communities have planted quite extensively is the black acacia. The following are some of the reasons why it pays to plant acacias, not only along the roadside but in our private grounds:

In the first place let me say, these trees come from an arid region. Thus they are used to drouth, reach far down into the ground for water, and so are fortified against neglect. If we plant acacia then we may be quite sure that our trees will live, and with a dry season or neglect to irrigate we will not be disappointed with a lot of dead or sickly trees throwing reproaches at us.

Another gain in planting these trees comes from the fact of their exceeding beauty. I don't know of any trees that are more attractive. With many of them the foliage is as delicate and graceful as that of the fern or that of the sensitive plant; and when there is mingled with this wondrously elegant foliage the rich profusion of bloom that these trees fling out for us, we have before us truly objects that are a joy forever. We often desire in our yards shrubs or small trees that are beautiful.

To any who may be wishing for such, I would recommend *Acacia cultriformis*, *A. pulchella* and *A. pendula*. The first of these is as beautiful in foliage as in flower, and when the two are combined people coming suddenly upon the plants are forced to pause in admiration. *Pulchella* is true to its name, while the nodding habit of *pendula* adds another feature to its grace and elegance.

If one wishes larger trees, then I would recommend the willow like *A. nereifolia*, usually known as *A. floribunda*; or, most beautiful of all, *A. baileyana*, which is incomparable in its foliage among the acacias, and when in bloom becomes simply unparalleled in its beauty. I really think this is "the noblest Roman of them all." For roadside planting, probably the Australian blackwood, or black acacia, *A. melanoxylon*, is to be preferred, as it is a very rapid grower, fine in form, and gives a beautiful avenue effect. The blossom, however, is white instead of yellow, rather small, and so quite inconspicuous.

Before closing let me suggest that in roadside tree-planting we do not mix trees, but plant all of one kind. This gives a much finer effect, and is recommended by all our best landscape gardeners.

#### CALIFORNIA HONEY-TREES.

From what I have written above it needs hardly be said that the acacias are worthy a place in our planting because of their value as honey-trees. The eucalypts are also to be selected for this same reason. Indeed, the eucalypts have all the virtues that belong to the acacias. Like the acacias, they have been brought from the southern hemisphere to the northern, hence there is a tendency to change their time of bloom. Consequently, we have in these, as in the acacias, trees blossoming at every season of the year.

Another tree worthy of consideration both for its elegance and as a honey-tree, is the incomparable pepper. I know of no tree the world over which has more to recommend it.

Los Angeles Co., Calif.



## State Inspection of Apiaries in Illinois

[Read at the Illinois State Convention Nov. 15, 16, 1904]

No more interesting occupation can be imagined than that of an inspector of apiaries. Early in the summer of 1904 the writer got his commission from Hon. J. Q. Smith, Inspector of Apiaries for Illinois. Soon after he started on his rounds among the Cook County bee-keepers.

Quite a number were visited who kept bees in box-hives, and never saw the interior of a brood-nest from one year's end to another. Some of these said their bees had nearly all died out, that they had not done well, etc. Of course in such cases it might be necessary to break up a colony or two

of the weakest live ones, to make a thorough examination, transferring the bees and combs to another hive. In the cases that I have in mind the parties were somewhat ignorant of our language and customs, and were entirely unwilling to have the hives touched, almost refusing to let me go into the back yard to have a look at the outside of the hives. Of course the colonies might be diseased, and the losses might have been caused by disease, but under the law as it stands, an inspector has no power to touch a hive for any purpose, without the consent of the owner, and the disease continues to spread in all directions from an infected apiary. By all means should the legislature be asked to give a drastic law, similar to the Wisconsin act. Otherwise it seems like wasting the money.

In my work of inspection I pass the home and apiary of a near neighbor and friend. He is an old-timer, having kept from 100 colonies up and down for 20 years or so. I never supposed his bees had the disease until one day I made him a formal call, asking him how his bees were. His answer, "They have got it," expressed the situation. We spent some time that day, and another day I returned and we examined nearly the whole apiary, and found 4 out of 5 colonies had foul brood. His loss will be over \$100.00 this season, by the disease. I questioned him as to where they could have gotten the infection. He named a party a mile away as the likely one. He said further that he had allowed the bees to clean out a honey-barrel that had been shipped in from Wisconsin. I visited the party named and found only the lady of the house at home. I told my errand. We went out to the colonies, and found 3 dead and only 1 alive. The live one I opened without smoke, and found a few bees on three frames and brood on two frames. They were in the last stage of foul brood. Now, I should have had the power to burn up the whole outfit, except the hives, on the spot. I urgently requested the lady of the house to have them burned up at once, and she promised to have it done. My time was too short, and the ground too large to get over it the second time, so I don't know whether it was done or not.

Now here is the condition that confronts us: The big State of Illinois has 102 counties, with about 350 apiaries to the county. Suppose an inspector can reach 5 apiaries in a day, it would take 70 days to cover one county effectually. This does not seem far out of the way when you remember that second and third calls must be made on a certain number of them. Seventy days to a county, 102 counties—7140 days' time to inspect the State. Suppose each deputy could put in 6 months—May, June, July, August, September, October, and put in 25 days in each month, which would make 150 days for each inspector. It would take about 48 inspectors to cover the ground. Allow \$5.50 a day for each inspector—\$4.00 and \$1.50 expenses. That makes \$39,270 as the sum needed to cover Illinois properly in one season. The moral of this is that we must ask the legislature for \$5,000 at the very least.

In order to get the money we must show them what was done with the money already given us the past two years. We must make a report of work done and money expended. We must show why we need a new law, and why we need more money. This report must be in proper form and addressed to the Governor and the legislative bodies. It must not be too voluminous, for they will not read and understand it if too many words are used. It seems fairly certain that we can get the largely-increased appropriation if the proper means are used. The Hon. H. W. Austin has consented to introduce our bill. You may remember that we would have had no law in 1903 without his aid. He recognizes the fact that even \$5,000 is an insignificant sum to cover the great State of Illinois.

It seems to be a fact that the aid of the Chicago-Northwestern Bee-Keepers' Association is necessary to the success of this plan. Let us suggest that a clause be incorporated in the new law to give the control of the fund to a joint board composed of the executive committees of both associations equally. It seems as if under such an administration the largest constituency could be reached, and the greatest good done to the greatest number. The Chicago-Northwestern is looking forward to great things. Two thousand invitations have been mailed for the coming convention at Chicago, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 1904. If these two of the best associations in America join hands, there will be no limit to their usefulness.

HERMAN F. MOORE,

Secretary of Chicago-Northwestern and Member of Illinois State.

## Mr. Hasty's Afterthoughts

The "Old Reliable" seen through New and Unreliable Glasses.  
By E. E. HASTY, Sta. B. Rural, Toledo, Ohio.

### NO ADULTERATED COMB FOUNDATION AMONG AMERICANS.

It is not that all Europeans are rogues and all Americans honest, that we don't have adulterated foundation in this country. Climate and Conscience trot in double harness for us as they do not elsewhere. In our extreme climate impure foundation is nearly *sure* to break down; while in cool climates the break-down is only occasional—not frequent enough to stop the use of the article. We have rogues, and they can simulate honesty and innocence *ad libitum*; but they can't keep people from abandoning the use of an article that absolutely won't work. Page 324.

### WISCONSIN APIARY INSPECTOR'S BLANK.

Did you suitably thank N. E. France for that "Subscriber for" in the inspection blank? It appears to be suggestive enough to do lots of good without being quite iterative or impertinent enough to be insulting. This latter contingency is sometimes sadly forgotten in human affairs. I'm well acquainted with the superintendent of a little country Sunday-school who feels insulted by the blanks he is required to make out—with iterative "none—no—no—no." A closing-up line reading, "Nothing but heathen, moss-backs and savages out here" would almost be appropriate. Page 324.

### FREIGHT-RATE ON HONEY IN JACKETED CANS.

The importance of getting juster freight-rates for extracted honey in jacketed cans is considerable, even if it applies to but one classification region. Easier to make other regions follow suit then. Something more than six lines of fine print might very properly be given to this success of Mr. N. E. France. Very plain that Mr. F. does not make the incubating hen his sole model of performance. Let us remember that a few appreciative words now and then are excellent to make a servant who does well keep on doing well. For costing little and accomplishing much they take first prize. And they bless him who gives them almost as much as him who receives them—keep him from growing to be a bear in this zoological world. Page 324.

### TARIFF ON CUBAN HONEY.

With all allowances made, the present actual tariff on Cuban comb honey is a cent and a quarter a pound, it seems. Not heavy enough to be prohibitive or seriously repressive. By common repute there's going to be *some time* a general readjustment of the tariff; but our folks want a rise, and the popular

idea is a general reduction. Driving from Derby to London when London drives out to Derby to see the great race is said to be a trifle trying. Page 324.

### KNOWING THE PURPOSE OF ONE'S EXISTENCE.

So you concluded the Root Company know what they are there for without being told! Well, if the bell knows what it's there for without being told, it should still be tolled at proper times. Won't hurt us perhaps to say that *on the whole* they are there because they best deserve to be there. And in this world of God's, *continuing* to deserve leadership is an immensely important item—seeing that we have Scripture to inform us that the crown does not endure to all generations. Page 324.

### POLLEN OF VARIOUS HUES.

The pollen pellets which bees bear on their legs take a wide range of color; yet they rather rarely verge on the greens, and still more rarely on the blues. Some of the California gillias, according to Prof. Cook, yield a blue pollen. Page 325.

### BEEES DON'T STING FRUIT.

Lots of us have been living with bees for a good share of our lives, and I venture the assertion that none of us has ever seen anything in their behavior that would lead one to expect them to sting a grape or peach. Not like them. And that sort of consideration counts heavily. The dog might make faces at the looking-glass, but he is not going to do it. The captured rabbit might defend himself by biting (and we greatly wonder why he does not), but somehow he never does. The great carnivora of the cat tribe might, when tamed, hunt under a master like the dog, but they just *won't*. Domestic pussy pretty nearly ditto—she must boss her own hunting or there'll be none. Similarly it's not in the nature of bees to sting things for mechanical purposes. Dander must be up or no sting. Or let us get at the slander from a different direction. Suppose bees did sting grapes. Those who charge this do not consider what an exceedingly fine shaft the sting is. No insect would notice so infinitesimal a puncture, and no juice would exude—unless I am very greatly mistaken. In fact, we may offer our own hides in evidence. An ordinary sting does not let out the blood. But when it causes a spasm of the tissues, making the spot to assume a different color, and to draw into an entirely new shape, then a visible dot or color of blood is *forced* out. But fruits do not have the kind of life that *can* get up a spasm. Page 328.

effect. But you will hardly find it proof against ants and moths.

2. To give all the remedies that have been offered for bee-stings would occupy pages. Perhaps as good as any other remedy is a plaster of mud. Most bee-keepers of experience seem to think that no remedy does much good; the only thing they do being to get the sting out as soon as possible. Don't pull out the sting by grasping it between thumb and finger, for that helps to squeeze more poison into the wound; but scrape it out with the finger-nail, or else, if it is in the hand, by striking the hand hard on the thigh with a sort of sliding motion which wipes out the sting. A sting will swell on a healthy person in nearly every case if the person is not used to it, and perhaps a little worse on an unhealthy person; but after being stung often one generally becomes to an extent immune, so there is little or no swelling.

### Putting on Supers

Is it better to put on supers before swarming-time or at once? MICHIGAN.

ANSWER.—In most localities it is better to put on supers before swarming begins. As you are probably in a white-clover region, you will do well to put on supers a week or 10 days after the *very first* clover blossom is seen. Better put on supers too early than too late.

### Clipping Off Queens' Legs

In clipping queens, do you not sometimes clip off a foot? If you should accidentally do so, what effect would it have on the queen? Would she die, stop laying, or be superseded by the bees? IOWA.

ANSWER.—I think I was never more than once so careless as to cut off a leg. A queen with 5 legs will do good work laying, as I have had several born lacking one leg.

### Management for Increase

I bought a 3-frame nucleus May 12, and put it in an 8-frame hive with 5 frames of empty combs. It has been said that properly managed this could be increased to 4 or 5 full colonies by fall. How ought it to be managed in order to accomplish this result? I have been feeding syrup, and the bees have taken considerable of it into the combs.

MISSOURI.

ANSWER.—If any one tells you that you can increase that 3-frame nucleus to 4 or 5 colonies by fall, tell him you don't believe it. That's a feat for a veteran of long experience under the most favorable circumstances. I wouldn't dare to promise I would do it. To make the greatest increase, you need familiarity with basic principles which you will get from a book of instructions on bee-keeping. This department is intended to supplement such a book, not to take its place, for which enough room could not be allowed. After studying up the book, if anything is not clear, I shall be glad to help clear up all I can in this department.

### Bees Gnawing Foundation in Sections

What is the cause of bees cutting foundation out of the sections?

I am a beginner, having started with a swarm which came to me July 6, 1903. I hived it in a box, and put it in an orchard, where I keep it. In the spring of 1904 a neighbor helped me to put the bees in a hive, and I secured one swarm and 30 sections of honey from them that season. I caught 3 runaway swarms, but lost 2 of them in the winter.

I used inch starters in the sections, but this spring I thought I would use full sheets, and I notice that the bees are cutting out some of them. I can not imagine what makes them do it, unless I did not fasten them in right. I fastened the foundation at both ends. Did I

## Doctor Miller's Question-Box

Send Questions either to the office of the American Bee Journal,  
or to DR. C. C. MILLER, Marengo, Ill.

Dr. Miller does not answer Questions by mail.

### California Redwood—Bee-Sting Remedies

1. I have a chance to get some hives made of California redwood. It is used for making incubators in this town. They say it will not take water, ants or moths will not work in it, and it will stand painting. Would the honey taste of it, or would the bees want to live in hives with that odor? Some say to wash with salt water or peach leaves. I can get hives made from this very cheap, although

redwood is high-priced. Have you had any experience in this matter?

2. What is the best remedy for a bee-sting, either for a person on whom the sting swells or one that it doesn't? It does not swell on me. I have heard that a sting will always swell up on a healthy person. Is that true? NEBRASKA.

ANSWERS.—1. California redwood has been successfully used for bee-hives, and you need not fear its effect on the honey, even without salt or peach leaves, which probably have no



to right, or ought the bottom to have been left loose? IOWA.

ANSWER.—The foundation should not be fastened at the bottom, but should be about 1/4 inch short of reaching the bottom (unless you use also a small bottom-starter), otherwise it is likely to sag and buckle. But that was not the reason the bees gnawed it. They probably gnawed the foundation because you gave it to them entirely too early, when they have no use for it. In your locality sections should not be given till after clover is in bloom. A book of instruction would be a paying investment.

### Colony With a Poor Queen

I have a colony of bees, hived about July 1 last year, which is not doing very well. I found a queen in the hive to-day, but there were hardly any eggs and only a small quantity of brood in 4 or 5 frames. The queen is very small compared to other queens in the bee-yard. What ought I to do with this colony? IOWA.

ANSWER.—If you had said the small amount of brood and eggs was all in one frame, there might be reason for believing that the queen was all right in a very weak colony; but when you say there is brood scattered in 5 frames, that condemns the queen. The only thing to do is to destroy the queen and give the colony another queen or a sealed queen-cell, or else allow the bees to rear a queen, giving them unsealed brood from other colonies. All this on the supposition that the colony is strong enough to be worth saving, which is indicated by the brood scattered in 5 frames.

### Corn Honey

I am sending you a sample of corn honey—a thing not often to be had. Three colonies brought in about 100 pounds last season, but the other bees did not get beyond the pollen contained in the tassels. Everything must be just so for corn honey—plenty of rain during the night, and temperature from about 70 to 80 degrees during the day. PENNSYLVANIA.

ANSWER.—Thanks for the sample. It is granulated extracted, of not very heavy body, rather light amber in color, and of rather pleasant flavor.

### Space Between Bottom-Board and Brood-Frames

How much space can be left from the bottom-board to the bottom of the brood-frames in summer or during the honey-flow, without danger of the space being filled with comb? MISSOURI.

ANSWER.—I don't know just how much. Probably as much as 3/4 of an inch with narrow bottom-bars, and perhaps a full inch with bottom-bars 1 1/2 wide.

### Wintering Bees—Early Drones—Swarming

My success in wintering bees in a cellar for the first time the past winter prompts me to relate it briefly, so you may form your own conclusions as to whether it was ventilation or what that gave me my success.

About Nov. 10, 1904, I was passing through the bee-yard and found a colony with plenty of bees, but almost destitute of stores. I put an empty super on, filled a pan with very thick syrup from granulated sugar, and hoped for warmer days, but was disappointed. There were only a few days from then till I moved them into the cellar that were warm enough for the bees to go up and get the syrup. I think they emptied the pan twice. Nov. 30 and winter seemed to be on us, and I carried the bees to the cellar. There was a pan on this hive nearly full of syrup which I removed and marked the hive "Very poor."

I made no preparation, but left the covers

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on without any cushion or top ventilation, and no ventilation below except the summer entrance. The thermometer registered from 38 to 45 degrees almost all of the time, and the bees were constantly humming. Some weeks after they were put in a few dead bees began showing on the floor, and I suppose during the winter I swept up a quart of dead bees from the 10 colonies—the number I put in. They were let severely alone till March 5, 1905. It being a warm sunshiny day I carried out one colony. This was a colony of yellow Italians that I had developed last summer from a 3-frame nucleus. My reason for selecting this colony was that I noticed there was some dripping at the entrance, while the others were perfectly dry. I should state that this hive stood only 6 inches from the bottom of the cellar, while the others were a foot from the bottom and tiered up on each other. I found the bottom-board covered with a black muck and smelling ugly. I cleaned this all off. The bees had a fine flight and I returned them to the cellar that evening. There was a hive full of bees and some honey and abundance of brood in all stages. This, remember, was March 5.

March 17 being very warm in the morning, I went into the cellar, and although it was very dark it was full of bees, flying in every direction. I immediately opened the outside entrance and without coat, hat, or gloves carried out the 10 colonies. I got several doses of anti-rheumatic for my temerity. I put them on the summer stands and they have been there since. I found them nearly all very populous, but not a great supply of honey. There was one with only a few bees and every comb full of honey. It is building up rapidly now. It seemed to me that I took out more bees than I put in. In 2 colonies I am sure I did. The hives in these two instances would hardly hold the bees, and one of them sent off a swarm May 12, covering every frame in an 8-frame hive. It was a tremendously big swarm. Did they rear brood all winter?

Now the colony that swarmed is poor in honey. In fact, they are all getting skimped, as there were 4 big freezers here after fruit was in bloom, and I think these destroyed the saccharine in the blossoms. Then it is raining so much it is impossible to gather any nectar. I am going to have to feed some if it does not soon warm up and bring out white clover.

Now as to the colony fed syrup in November and marked "Very poor." It came through in fine condition and is now threatening to swarm, though it is almost destitute of honey. The colony of yellow Italians that I put out March 5 and then returned till March 17 (the day I took all of them out) and which was full of bees March 5, dwindled and died till they did not cover more than 3 frames. Was this because of the flight March 5, or was it because the bees were not healthy? I am unable to account for the early appearance of so many drones. Can you? Remember I am only a novice.

I reported No. 1 as sending out a very large swarm May 12. I put the new colony on the old stand, and moved the parent colony the width of itself west, expecting to carry it to some distant part of the yard when the 8 days were up. This morning (May 18) was cloudy and windy, the thermometer registering 58 degrees. The parent colony sent out another good swarm. I caught one queen, and saw another with the swarm, which I put back in the parent colony. May 19 I carried it to another part of the yard. Lying in front of this parent colony this morning is a dead queen, and a cap off of a queen-cell. Did the queen I returned kill another, or get killed? If it were not so cold I would examine the hive and see how many more queens are there.

ILLINOIS.

ANSWER.—As you are south of latitude 40 degrees, it would generally be supposed that outdoor wintering would be best for you; but your success in cellaring seems a pretty good warrant for its continuance.

One factor in your favor, judging from the sketch you send, is that there is abundant provision for ventilation without letting light into the cellar.

It is not at all likely that brood was reared all winter in any colony; but the rearing of so much brood at an unusually early date

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As has been our custom heretofore we offer to mail a fine, Untested Italian Queen to the person who complies with the following conditions, all of which must be strictly followed:

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2. Sending your own name with the \$1.00 for the Bee Journal will not entitle you to a Queen as a premium. The sender must be already a paid-in-advance subscriber as above, and the new subscriber must be a NEW subscriber; which means, further, that the new subscriber has never had the Bee Journal regularly, or at least not for a whole year previous to his name being sent in as a

new one; and, also, the new subscriber must not be a member of the same family where the Bee Journal is already being taken.

We think we have made the foregoing sufficiently plain so that no error need be made. Our Premium Queens are too valuable to throw away—they must be earned in a legitimate way. They are worth working for.

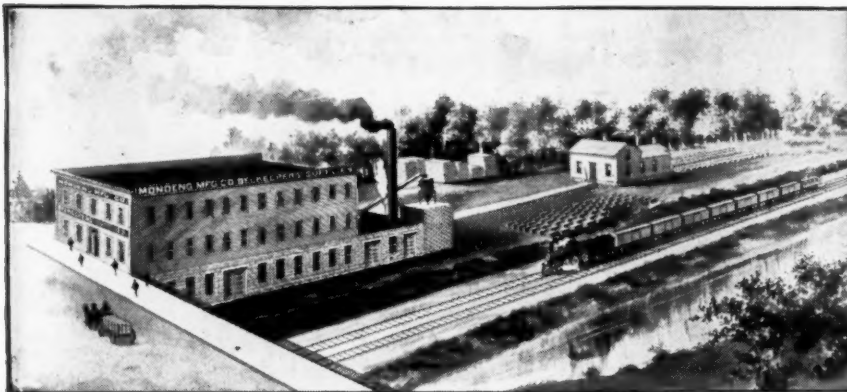
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Will you have one or more?

If you cannot get a new subscriber, and want one of these Queens, we will send the American Bee Journal a year and the Queen—both for only \$1.50.

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Atf

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may have had something to do with the dwindling of the one colony. It probably suffered also for want of ventilation, as shown by the dampness while other colonies were dry. Possibly its being nearer the ground had also some effect. The flight March 5 was hardly to blame.

The early appearance of drones is no more than a mark of prosperity, and also a result of the fact that the season was earlier than usual, notwithstanding the fact that there has been so much backward weather since the opening of spring that the season is now no earlier than usual.

You should not wait 8 days till after the issue of the prime swarm before moving the old colony to a new location, for usually the second swarm issues at about that time. About a week is long enough, and that's too long if the prime swarm has been delayed as to issuing by bad weather.

I don't know whether the virgin queen you returned was killer or killed. There was a fight to the finish among all the queens present, and the strongest remained victor.

## Queens! ITALIAN Queens!

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Queens from Root's Red Clover Stock and Golden Italian Queens, the best honey-gatherers in America. Untested, 50c each, or \$6.00 per dozen. I guarantee safe delivery. Send your orders to

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SEND TO JOHN W. PHARR Berclair, Tex.

He will furnish at same prices as last year: Tested, \$1; Untested, 75c; 5 for \$3.25; 10 for \$6; 15 for \$8.25; 25 for \$12.50; 100 for \$45. He breeds Golden, Carniolans and 3-Band Italians. Also 1, 2, and 3 frame Nuclei, and full colonies. Prices given on application. Pharr pays the freight, and guarantees satisfaction on all Queens. To do justice and judgment is more acceptable with the Lord than sacrifice. —(Prov. 3: 21.) 6Atf

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and return, via Nickel Plate Road. Tickets good via New York City. Dates of sale, June 29 and 30 and July 1 and 2, with extreme return limit of Aug. 31, by depositing ticket. Chicago City Ticket Offices, 111 Adams St. and Auditorium Annex. Depot, La Salle and Van Buren Sts., on Elevated Loop. 8—23A4t

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## Reports and Experiences

### Bees Doing Well

Bees wintered well on the summer stands. No losses. One swarm came off yesterday, a good, large one. Hived nicely. Is this the first swarm reported this season in this region? One colony is working in the super. We hope for a good honey season. A. B. METTLER, Will Co., Ill., May 24.

[We have published all the very early swarms that have been reported to us.—EDITOR.]

### Heavy Winter Losses—Good Prospects

Apple-trees are in bloom now and bees are doing very well, but we still have some frost at nights. Some of my colonies in 12-frame hives have 9 frames of brood. The winter loss seemed very heavy just in this immediate locality, but mostly from lack of feed. There were also a great many queenless colonies this spring, and some spring dwindling.

Clover never looked more promising, and if nothing happens to prevent it we will have another 1903. I have found some queen-cells in my best colonies. HARVEY SMITH, Ontario, Canada, May 22.

### Shaken Swarms Without Shaking

On pages 411, 459, 493, 520, (1904) will be found references to a plan which I stated on page 411 under the head of "Shaken Swarms Without Shaking." I do not remember to have seen any other mention of it. I would like to call the attention of the readers to it,



**BLACK BREASTED RED GAME.**  
The KING of Poultry. Large size, good layers of finest eggs. Hardy and fearless, the best all purpose fowl. Willow legs and Bay eyes. Illustrated circular. 25th year. H. H. FLICK, MANCHESTER, MD.

The most attractive eastern excursion during the coming summer will be to Asbury Park, N. J., on occasion of the annual meeting of National Educational Association, July 3 to 7, inclusive, via the Nickel Plate Road and its connections, either the West Shore or Lackawanna Road, with privilege of stop-over at Chautauqua Lake points, Niagara Falls and New York City. Rate, \$21.35 for the round-trip. Dates of sale, June 29 and 30 and July 1 and 2, with extreme return limit of Aug. 31, by depositing ticket. Patrons of this route may have the choice of a ride over the most interesting mountain scenery in New York and Pennsylvania, and through the celebrated Delaware Water Gap, or through the beautiful Mohawk Valley and down the Hudson River, which also includes the privilege of a ride on day line boat on Hudson River, between Albany and New York City, in either direction, if desired. No excess fare charged on any train on Nickel Plate Road. Meals served in Nickel Plate dining cars, on American Club Meal Plan, ranging in price from 35c to \$1.00; also a la carte. Chicago Depot, La Salle St. Station, corner Van Buren and La Salle Sts. City ticket offices, 111 Adams St. and Auditorium Annex.

For further particulars, address John V. Calahan, General Agent, 113 Adams St., Room 298, Chicago. 7-23A4t

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Untested Queens.....	\$ .75	Select Breeding Queen.....	\$5.00
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It costs you no more

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Untested, 75 cents each; \$4 for 6; or \$7.50 per dozen. Tested, \$1.25 each. Breeders, \$3. Nuclei—1 frame with queen, \$1.50; 2-frame, \$2; 3-frame, \$2.50. Absolute satisfaction or no deal. We breed 6 pure races. Price-list describing them free. We are agents for the **Dittmer Comb Foundation** for this State, and all that are nearer us than them, at Dittmer's prices. If you wish your Wax worked up into Foundation for cash, we will receive same and furnish you the Foundation from our stock, which will save you much time and freight.

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Ready June 1. Hustlers for honey; very gentle, non-swarming. Price-list now ready—also an 8-page leaflet on queen-rearing, including my experience in curing pickled brood, black brood and bee-paralysis, sent free to all who apply.

HENRY ALLEY,

13Atf

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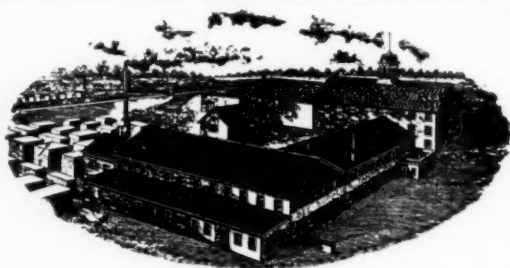
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of Lewis' B-Ware come to our city for distribution. We carry a large stock which enables us to make immediate deliveries. We invite your inquiries for prices, Catalog, etc.

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## The Rietsche Press

Made of artificial stone. Practically indestructible, and giving entirely satisfactory results. Comb foundation made easily and quickly at less than half the cost of buying from the dealers. Price of Press, \$1.50—cash with order. Address,

**ADRIAN GETAZ,**  
KNOXVILLE, TENN.

J. G. Goodner, of this State, writes me that he "prefers to pay \$25 for a Rietsche Press than do without it."—A. G.

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.



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### And Prompt Shipments

Is what we are making for our customers.

### DOVETAILED HIVES AND SHIPPING-CASES

We carry a full line of SUPPLIES. Ask for Catalog.

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13A1f

**NORRIS & ANSPACH, Kenton, Ohio.**

to see if any one has tried it. I have used 3 seasons now and it works well with me. It saves lots of work, and, with variations that will occur to any one, does the job of shoe swarming without shaking. The essential of the plan is using the bee-escape board to get all the field-bees into the old colony, and as many young ones as may be desired.

TURNER BUSWELL.

Somerset Co., Maine, May 22.

### Bees Working in Decoy Hives

That afterthought on page 376 has made me do quite a bit of thinking. At first blush I was inclined to think that the chance to do something at cleaning out a decoy hive would make the bees more willing to accept it; but the more I think about it the less inclination I have in that direction. The sentimental fancy that bees are attached to a place because of their remembrance of hard work done there is somewhat attractive, Mr. Hasty, but it hasn't good wearing qualities. Of course they can't "go and work day after day in a hive where there is no work to do;" but that doesn't prove that they prefer a place where there is much work to do. If they were after work, they would prefer an empty hive to one filled with combs, and I have had evidence that they have no such preference.

I have had abundant opportunity to see scouts at work, and if you will drop in almost any day throughout the season I'll show you scouts working at hives containing empty

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Original  
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65¢ per mail.  
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\$1.00  
\$1.10  
\$1.50

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**T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.**

OTISVILLE, PA., Jan. 18, 1904.

Dear Sir:—I have tried almost everything in the smoker line; 3 in the last 3 years. In short if I want any more smokers your new style is good enough for me. I thank the editor of Review for what he said of it. Those remarks induced me to get mine.

FRED FODNER.

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combs. They're by no means always at work, but seem to get a lot of enjoyment out of simply flying in and out of the empty hive, which exercise they keep up day after day till something happens in their native place to make them give up the scout business. As nearly as I can interpret their utterances, they say, "We like this place ever so much better for having combs already built; our business is to spend most of our daylight time here till the swarm is ready to come, and in the meantime if there is any cleaning up to do we may as well be at it."

Now, Mr. Hasty, don't you go and say I'm not a good interpreter. C. C. MILLER.  
McHenry Co., Ill.

## White Bush Clover

I send a new flower which appeared in this (Atascosa) County 2 years ago. It is a fine honey-plant and produces the finest honey we have. It blooms in May and lasts until August. What is its name? W. T. BRITE.  
Atascosa Co., Tex., May 10.

[The plant is the white bush clover (*Petalostemon candidus*), and is pretty well spread over the prairie States. Being a clover it would be sadly out of place if it did not give the bees something fine.—C. L. WALTON.]

## The Cotton Controllable Hive

I notice on page 359 "The Wonderful (?) Cotton 'Controllable' Hive." I will give my experience with it. In June, 1885, I purchased one of the Cotton Controllable hives for \$4 and put a swarm of hybrid bees into it. I never saw bees work better. Not being a very good honey season I fed them 50 cents worth of syrup to give them a start. Aug 10 following I took off 60 pounds of nice white honey in glass honey boxes, and sold it at 15 cents a pound. But the hive was so expensive that I abandoned it, and am now using the

## The Novelty Pocket-Knife.

Your Name and Address on one side—Three Bees on the other side.



[THIS CUT IS THE FULL SIZE OF THE KNIFE.]

Your Name on the Knife.—When ordering, be sure to say just what name and address you wish put on the Knife.

The Novelty Knife is indeed a novelty. The novelty lies in the handle. It is made beautifully of indestructible celluloid, which is as transparent as glass. Underneath the celluloid, on one side of the handle is placed the name and residence of the subscriber, and on the other side pictures of a Queen, Drone, and Worker, as shown here.

The Material entering into this celebrated knife is of the very best quality; the blades are hand-forged out of the very finest English razor-steel, and we warrant every blade. The bolsters are made of German silver, and will never rust or corrode. The rivets are hardened German silver wire; the linings are plate brass; the back springs of Sheffield spring-steel, and the finish of the handle as described above. It will last a last-time, with proper usage.

Why Own the Novelty Knife? In case a good knife is lost, the chances are the owner will never recover it; but if the "Novelty" is lost, having name and address of owner, the finder will return it; otherwise to try to destroy the name and address, would destroy the knife. If traveling, and you meet with a serious accident, and are so fortunate as to have one of the "Novelties," your POCKET-KNIFE will serve as an identifier; and in case of death, your relatives will at once be notified of the accident.

How appropriate this knife is for a present! What more lasting memento could a mother give to a son, a wife to a husband, a sister to a brother, or a lady to a gentleman, the knife having the name of the recipient on one side?

The accompanying cut gives a faint idea, but cannot fully convey an exact representation of this beautiful knife, as the "Novelty" must be seen to be appreciated.

How to Get this Valuable Knife.—We send it postpaid for \$1.25, or give it as a Premium to the one sending us THREE NEW SUBSCRIBERS to the Bee Journal (with \$3.00.) We will club the Novelty Knife and the Bee Journal for one year, both for \$2.00.

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**\$12.25 to Niagara Falls and Return** via Nickel Plate Road, June 18, 19 and 20, with return limit of June 24, or by depositing ticket limit of July 14 may be obtained. Through vestibuled sleeping-cars. No excess fare charged on any train on the Nickel Plate Road. Meals served in Nickel Plate dining-cars, on American Club Meal Plan, ranging in price from 35 cents to \$1.00; also a la carte. For further information, write John Y. Calahan, General Agent, 113 Adams St., Room 298, Chicago, Ill. Passenger Station at Chicago, corner Van Buren and La Salle Sts., on the Elevated Loop. Chicago City Ticket Offices, 111 Adams St. and Auditorium Annex. 10—23A2t

**VIRGINIA QUEENS** Italian Queens secured by a cross, and years of careful selection from red-clover queens and superior stock obtained from W. Z. Hutchinson. Untested queens, 75c; after June 15, 60c; tested queens, \$1.00; after June 15, 75c; selected tested queens, \$1.25; after June 15, \$1.00. Write postal card for circular. **CHAS. KOEPPEN,** 17A2t **FREDERICKSBURG, VA.**

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Within a hundred miles of me are over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the bee-keepers of Michigan. I am on the Pere Marquette R.R., which completely covers this region. **Root's Goods, Factory Prices.** Prompt Service, Low Freight. Send for Catalog.

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Choice home-bred and imported stock. All queens reared in full colonies.

One untested queen..... \$ .90  
One tested queen..... 1.10  
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All grades ready to send by return mail.

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Out of 1500 shipped one of our customers, that he folded, not one broke. There are but few No. 1 Sections on the market that will equal this record. In addition our price for No. 2 Sections is so far below the No. 1 that you can't afford to send away for your **SUPPLIES** anywhere else.

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## JOHN DOLL & SON,

Power Building,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Danzenbaker and Langstroth-Simplicity hives exclusively.

At that time, in 1885, the hive and system of management was all right, but the price of the hive and bees—\$30—was an outrage. There being no patent on the Cotton hive, they can be furnished complete with a full set of glass honey boxes, holding about 2 pounds of honey each, with a full colony of Italian bees, for \$10. I have full and complete plans for the hive and outfit. **SUBSCRIBER.**

Boone Co., Mo., May 26.

### Wintering—Discouraging Outlook

Last season I lost 184 colonies out of 185. Then I bought, requeened, and put into the cellar 70 strong colonies, and carried from the cellar 40 live colonies, 25 of them very strong. Yesterday I took an inventory, and I found 8 colonies with about 8 pints of bees, and I am having no worse luck than my neighbors.

I will give, as nearly as I can, the number of colonies of bees in this and 5 adjoining towns 20 years ago, and contrast them with the number at the present time:

Rupert, 1885	.....	2100	Same, 1905	..20
Pawlet, "	.....	700	"	..4
Dasset, "	.....	400	"	..60
Sandgate, "	.....	300	"	..2
Hebron, N. Y., 1885	.....	350	"	..40
Salem, 1885	.....	450	"	..70

I have had letters from other towns in the county, and the decrease is about the same. I had a letter from a man in Sunderland, Vt., saying that he had only 3 colonies left out of 80 which he had 3 years ago.

I have tried every way that I could read or think of to keep the bees. I have not lost 20 colonies because of their not having stores enough, and in 55 years I have never had a swarm winter in any kind of double-walled hive left out-doors, never had them in 8-frame dovetailed hives but 2 winters, and have built 2 new houses at a cost of \$5000, my aim in building both these houses being to have a cellar that would winter bees. They are dry and well-ventilated, and the temperature is from 42 to 46 degrees, but after the bees have been in the cellar about 4 weeks they will begin to roar and come out, and they keep this up all winter, and if I leave them out they do the same. I will give any one \$100 who will give me a successful plan that will winter and spring 90 percent of the strong colonies put into winter quarters. The time will soon come when the hum of the honey-bee on the willow or apple tree, will not be heard in this vicinity. **C. M. LINCOLN.**

Bennington Co., Vt., May 24.

### Strange Season in Texas

We are having a strange season in Texas. Uvalde has lost its honey crop for this year, we understand, but suppose they will have some honey. We are having a fine honey-flow now from horsemint, which bids fair to be the largest crop in years, for this location.

**SOUTHWESTERN BEE CO.**

Bexar Co., Tex., May 27.

## HONEY-JARS.

For a limited time we offer No. 25 Honey-Jars, porcelain cover, metal screw cap, holding one pound of honey net, one gross in case complete in 5-gross lots, \$4.00 per gross; less quantities, \$4.50 per gross, f.o.b. New York. If you want to secure some, let us know at once.

**HILDRETH & SEGELKEN,**  
265 & 267 GREENWICH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y.  
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## Honey and Beeswax

CHICAGO, May 8.—With April about all the trade in comb honey ceases so far as this market is concerned; occasionally a case sells, but no lots, so that prices now are practically without change, pending the new crop. Extracted is exceedingly slow of sale; white ranges from 5½¢ to 7¢, and amber 5¼¢ to 6¢, according to flavor, quality and package. Beeswax in active demand at 30¢.

R. A. BURNETT & Co.

CINCINNATI, June 2.—There is only a fair demand for honey at the present time. We quote amber extracted honey in barrels at 4¼¢ to 6¢, according to quality. White clover extracted at 6¼¢ to 8¢. The comb honey market is practically closed for the summer. Beeswax, 29¢.

THE FRED W. MUTH CO.

BOSTON, May 23.—Our honey market continues very dull, with very little movement to be noted. We quote fancy white at 14¢; No. 1, 12½¢ to 13¢. Extracted, from 6¢ to 8¢, according to quality.

BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

PHILADELPHIA, May 19.—The season is about over for the sale of comb honey, with so few sales that the market is not established enough to quote price. Extracted honey has met with some demand, and we quote as follows: White, 6¢ to 7¢; amber, 5½¢ to 6¢. Beeswax, 28¢.

We are producers of honey and do not handle on commission.

WM. A. SELSER.

NEW YORK, April 19.—There is no change in the condition of the honey market. Very little comb honey selling and prices ruling about the same as our last quotations. Extracted in fair demand only. Beeswax firm at 30¢.

HILDRETH & SEGELKEN.

KANSAS CITY, May 12.—The honey situation is a little stronger, and there is but little honey left in the hand of the dealers. Best honey bringing from \$2.25 to \$2.50 a case; amber at from 25¢ to 50¢ a case lower. Extracted, 4¼¢ to 6¢. Beeswax, 28¢.

C. C. CLEMONS & Co.

CINCINNATI, O., May 18.—The large stock of comb honey yet offered with hardly any demand causes lower prices. I quote fancy water-white at 12¢; other grades lower, in proportion. Extracted is in usual demand for this season of the year. We quote white clover 7¢ to 8¢; amber in barrels at 5¼¢ to 5½¢; in cans, 5½¢ to 6 cents. Beeswax, 28¢.

C. H. W. WEBER.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 8.—Honey market dull this extreme cold weather, especially comb, which candies or granulates and cracks easily. We quote: Fancy white, 13¢ to 14¢; No. 1, 12¢ to 13¢; mixed, 10¢ to 11¢; buckwheat, 10¢ to 11¢. Extracted, better demand: Buckwheat, 6¢ to 6½¢; white, 6¢ to 6½¢. Buckwheat most in demand, as the Jewish people will have no other. Beeswax, 30¢ to 32¢.

H. R. WRIGHT.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 3.—White comb, 1-lb. sections, 11¢ to 12 cents; amber, 8¢ to 10¢. Extracted—white, 5¼¢ to 6 cents; light amber, 4¢ to 5¢; amber, 3¢ to 3½¢; dark amber, 2¼¢ to 3¢. Beeswax—good to choice, light, 29¢ to 30¢; dark, 27¢ to 28¢.

The steamer City of Peking, sailing Saturday last, took 85 cases for Belgium. Movement on local account is light. Buyers are holding off, anticipating arrivals of new crop at an early day.

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